

SPECIAL ARTICLES

COCCIDIOIDAL GRANULOMA IN CALIFORNIA IN 1934-1935

Since the publication of Special Bulletin No. 57 by the California State Department of Public Health in 1931 nothing further has been reported on coccidioidal granuloma. This report will serve to revive and bring the data up to date (July 1, 1936).

The general trend of the epidemiology of this disease remains the same as discussed in the Special Bulletin.

Four hundred and fifty cases with two hundred and twenty-four deaths were recorded to July 1, 1936. Table 1 is a tabulation of the cases and deaths by years:

TABLE 1.—Distribution of Coccidioidal Granuloma in California Cases and Deaths by Years

Year	Cases	Deaths
Prior to 1928	151	86
1928	36	10
1929	46	25
1930	22	11
1931	19	8
1932	19	9
1933	54	25
1934	49	29
1935	28	14
1936 to July 1	26	7
Totals	450	224

Geographically these cases are distributed according to Table 2. The concentration of cases still persists in central and southern California. Three hundred and one cases, or 66.8 per cent, of the four hundred and fifty cases recorded are from Fresno, Kern, Kings, Tulare, and Los Angeles counties.

The northern rural counties have never reported cases, and it would appear that the disease has certain geographic limits. Since the first large group of cases were reported (prior to 1928) from San Francisco as a medical diagnostic center, only eight cases have been recorded in nine years. Other cases which have been diagnosed in San Francisco have been transferred to the home address or to the most probable source of infection obtained from the detailed history.

A study of the cases according to age and sex (see Table 3) shows that males are the most often affected with 384, or 85 per cent, of the 450 cases occurring in this sex. Sixty-one cases, or 13.3 per cent, are recorded in females and five were of unknown sex. Three cases have been reported under one year of age, and seventeen cases (3.7 per cent) in the one to four age group. However, the majority fall in the higher age groups with a total of 275 cases, or 61 per cent, occurring between the ages of twenty-five and fifty-five years.

TABLE 2.—Sex and Age

Age	Male	Female	Unknown	Total
0-1	1	2	—	3
1-4	13	3	1	17
5-9	10	4	—	14
10-14	5	2	—	7
15-19	17	4	—	21
20-24	45	11	—	56
25-34	129	15	—	144
35-44	80	7	—	87
45-54	40	4	—	44
55+	30	8	—	38
A.	13	1	—	14
Unknown	1	—	4	5
Totals	384	61	5	450

Table 4 is a summary of cases according to occupation and sex. The occupations were grouped under the general headings: soil, vegetation, animals, general labor (when no specific type was noted), laboratory infection, and miscellaneous. The latter group included professionals (students) commercial business, mechanical trades, building trades, and others. Two other groups were listed, *i. e.*, unknown occupations and no occupation. Under the heading vegetation was included housewives—since their work brought them into close contact with fruits and vegetables. Seventy-eight patients were found to have work pertaining to the soil; one hundred and one with fruits, vegetables, cotton and other vegetation; one hun-

dred were general laborers; one hundred and sixteen cases were grouped under the miscellaneous heading; twenty-nine were of unknown occupation; and nine had no occupation.

Sixty-five and five-tenths per cent of the cases were found in the groups involving outside work or work involving soil, vegetations, animals, and general outdoor labor. The epidemiology theory that the disease is soil-borne, as expressed by the high percentage of male outdoor workers, has been proved correct since Stewart and Meyer isolated the fungus (*Coccidioides immitis*) from soil samples collected in Kern County.

TABLE 3.—Occupation

Type	Male	Female	Sex	Total
Soil (oil, mines)	78	0	0	78
Vegetation (housework)	64	37	0	101
Animals	16	0	0	16
General laborer	100	0	0	100
Laboratory	1	0	0	1
Miscellaneous:				
Professions and school	21	6	0	27
Children	25	11	1	37
Commercial business	5	1	0	6
Mechanics	19	0	0	19
Building trades	12	0	0	12
Others	12	3	0	15
Unknown occupation	24	1	4	29
No occupation	7	2	0	9
Totals	384	61	5	450

The cases are tabulated in Table 4 according to nationality, with number and percentage given. Practically all races are affected and the per cents for each have remained quite constant since the first tabulation in 1931. There are, however, variations, *i. e.*, the foreign-born whites have decreased slightly, whereas the percentage of cases among Filipinos has doubled during the past five years. The explanation of this increase is not evident from the epidemiological histories. Occupation probably plays a part, as the majority of Filipinos in California are engaged in agricultural work in localities where the highest percentage of cases occurs.

It has been noted that when the medical profession becomes interested in a particular disease, then the morbidity reports increase. This undoubtedly has had an influence on the increase in the number of cases of coccidioidal granuloma reported.

Early diagnosis of pulmonary cases and differential diagnosis from tuberculosis by sputum examination have been important steps during the last few years.

TABLE 4.—Nationality

Nationality	Number	Per Cent
American (white)	135	30.00
Mexican	96	21.33
Filipino	67	14.80
Negro	36	8.00
Foreign born (white)	31	6.89
Japanese	9	2.00
Chinese	8	1.80
Portuguese	8	1.80
Hindu	4	.89
Indian	3	.66
East Indian	1	.22
Malayan	2	.44
Unknown	20	4.44
Totals	450	100.00

PRESIDENT'S PERPETUAL BRIDGE TROPHY: LOS ANGELES COUNTY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

By ARTHUR E. SMITH, M.D., D.D.S.
Los Angeles

During July, 1936, Dr. Harlan Shoemaker, then president of the Los Angeles County Medical Association, appointed a committee, consisting of Doctors S. M. Alter, Charles E. Phillips, and E. Eric Larson, to organize a bridge tournament, to be held at intervals at the Association's headquarters during the remainder of the year. At the end of that time, appropriate prizes were to be given to the winning participants.

The sessions were held every two weeks for ten weeks. About sixty members played at the first session, most of whom continued throughout the whole period.

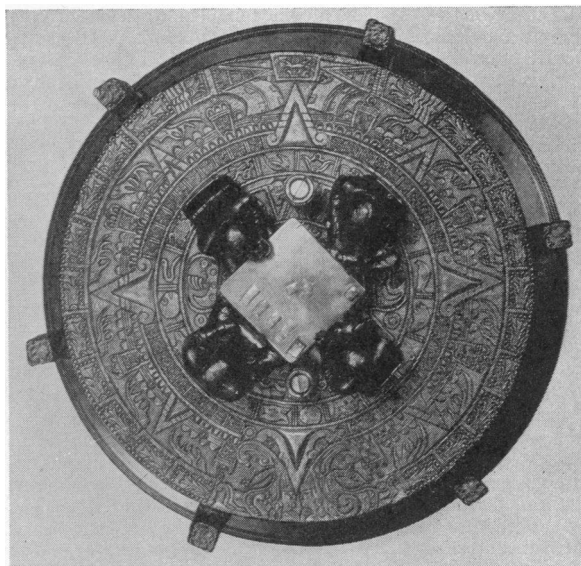
The players were divided into two sections: the recognized good players were placed in the North and South positions, and those who felt they were not the best of players occupied the East and West positions. At the end of each session the points were tabulated, and there was great rivalry between the members of each section as to their position on the tabulated lists.

Within a short time following the organization of the medical bridge tournament, Doctor Shoemaker came to my office with a copy of the November, 1936, issue of the *National Geographic Magazine*, and approached me, saying, "Arthur, I've got an idea that I want to explain to you. It is my desire to present a prize to the winner of the bridge tournament, and I have been racking my brain to evolve something unusual, something different from the time-worn reward of a cup. I have really remained awake night after night, giving the matter much thought, and at last I conceived the idea of making a trophy, utilizing the *Calendario Azteca* as a support for a miniature bridge table, chairs and players, and you have been chosen to design and sculpture such a trophy." Doctor Shoemaker was advised that I would consider the production of such a trophy and would confer with him later.

The very next afternoon, however, and before I had considered such a tremendous undertaking, he returned to my office, saying: "I have another idea for the trophy." He explained that he would like to have carved reproductions of the emblematic Mayan feathered serpents, which guard the Temple of Warriors, Chichen Itza, incorporated in the trophy. Inasmuch as I had only read about the feathered serpents, I was bewildered in creating models of them. With the above explanation, Doctor Shoemaker departed, leaving me in amazement with his words, "Now you produce the trophy!" I had nothing to guide me or use—all had to be reproduced, designed and sculptured from photographs that, as yet, we did not have.

It was less than five months until the bridge tournament ended, when the trophy would be presented to the winner. This was a very short space of time to complete such a detailed art production, and I quite realized that midnight oil must be burned if this unique creation were to be born. It was not fully completed the evening it was presented, and since that date many additional hours have been spent to complete it. Approximately four hundred hours were taken in its production.

Much time and effort was necessary to secure the necessary data, photographs, etc., to start the designing and



This photograph of the trophy was taken from above, looking downward, and shows a bridge game in progress. Note the carved *Calendario Azteca*, cards, score pad, pencil, cigarettes, and cigar stand.

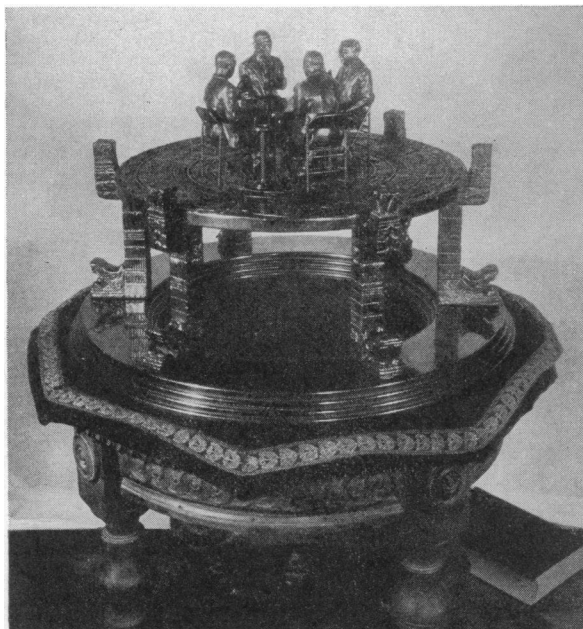
modeling. A plaque or copy of the *Calendario Azteca* could not be found in Los Angeles. After wiring a friend in Mexico City, a small picture of the *Calendario* was secured. Books on Mexican art were borrowed from Dr. Elmer A. Belt, which gave considerable data on the *Calendario*, but models or copies of the feathered serpents could be located in Los Angeles. Some books were secured from the Public Library which gave data and history of the feathered serpents; and after considerable study it was decided that the trophy should consist of four distinct parts: a base designed from Mayan steps leading to Caracol; six legs of feathered serpent design; a disk to support the tableau designed from the *Calendario Azteca*, and a tableau depicting an actual scene during a game of bridge.

After obtaining the above-mentioned data, the next step was to decide on the size of the trophy. The size of the players in miniature, bridge table, chairs, etc., had to be considered from the standpoint of sculpturing. A one-eighth to one-inch scale was decided upon.

The first step in production was to make the *Calendario*. A photograph was taken from the illustration sent from Mexico City, and then an eighteen-inch enlargement was made, and after that an eighteen-inch copper disk, upon which, with scribing tools, the hieroglyphics from the photograph of the *Calendario* were outlined in minute detail. When this was completed, an impression was taken and a plastic positive model produced; then the detailed outline of the hieroglyphics of the *Calendario* were reproduced upon the positive plastic model. That done, all the characters were carefully carved in relief. When this was completed, another negative impression was made from which a positive model was produced in artificial marble. (All models comprising the trophy were reproduced in copper and bronze before assembling.)

The next step was to create models of the feathered serpents. Having no model as a guide, we photographed the feathered serpent from the November, 1936, issue of the *National Geographic Magazine*. This photograph was enlarged to the desired size and was used as a guide in carving a model in plastic material. At the completion of the original, impressions were taken and six reproductions were cast in artificial marble which were reproduced later in bronze. These six feathered serpent copies were to support the *Calendario* and tableau.

For production of the tableau, I photographed four players seated at a bridge table, in informal pose while a bridge game was in session. The players—Doctors Harlan Shoemaker, Charles E. Phillips, Edward C. Pallette, and E. Eric Larson—were photographed from four



The above photograph shows a close-up view of the trophy. Note the base of Mayan design and the six feathered serpent columns supporting the *Calendario Azteca* upon which rests the tableau.

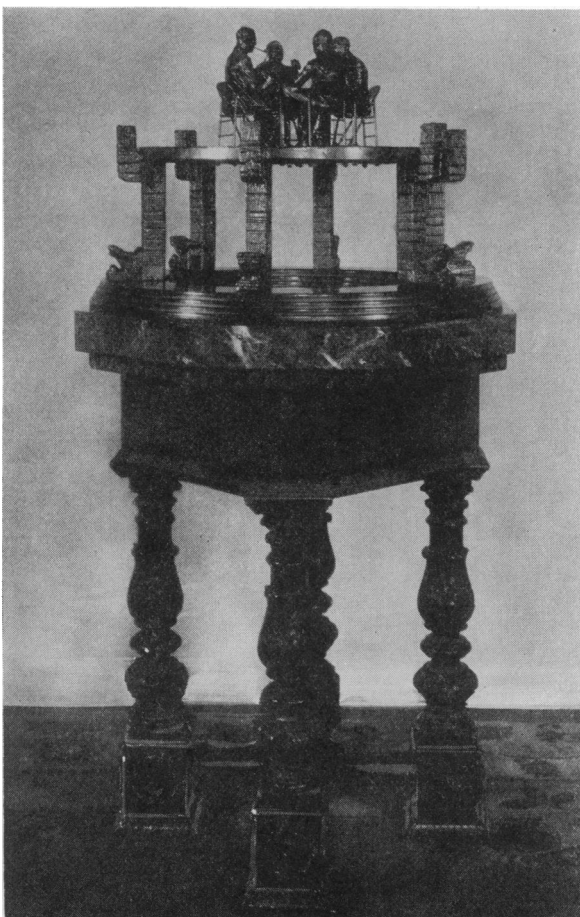
different angles, and each was modeled to scale in clay in his original position. When the players were sculptured, impressions were taken of each miniature and reproductions made in artificial marble and later in bronze. The players were placed in their respective chairs in the exact position that they occupied during the actual bridge game. The score pad, pencil, cigarettes, and pipe were produced in metal on a one-eighth to one-inch scale.

The next step was to produce the bridge table, chairs, and cigar stands. I now conferred with Mr. Cochems, Executive Secretary of the Association, and secured a bridge table, chair, and cigar stand, which were photographed with the players. This equipment was used for the production of the miniature models. Careful measurements were taken and the miniature models were accurately made on a one-eighth to one-inch ratio, from brass and copper. The playing cards were individually cut from thin spring brass, to scale, by the use of a template.

The table, chairs, cigar stands, cards, cigarettes, and the players were now assembled. The next step was to attach the six supporting feathered serpent columns to the Calendario Azteca. These columns occupy equidistant positions. The base, which supports the feathered serpent columns, the Calendario Azteca, and the tableau, is of Mayan design and was created from a photograph of the stone steps leading to the entrance of the Caracol, Chichen Itza. After complete assemblage of the various parts, which comprise the trophy, it was reproduced in copper and bronze.

It will be noted that Doctor Palette and Doctor Phillips each hold twelve cards; Doctor Shoemaker holds thirteen, and is about to play, while Doctor Larson has spread his cards upon the table.

It will also be observed that Doctor Larson is holding a cigarette between his fingers and is peering very serenely



This photograph displays the trophy at a distance. Note the open mouths of the feathered serpents, and the carved columns.



Calendario Azteca shown in detail. This forms the support for the miniature bridge table and players of the President's Trophy.

through his Harold Lloyd spectacles, with his "britches" pulled up almost to his knees. It will be noted that the expression on Doctor Shoemaker's face is that of deep thought and anxiety to win. Doctor Palette's cigarette is reposing on the edge of the table and, as usual, his right leg is resting against his abdomen. Doctor Phillips appears nonchalant and is sucking on an old strong pipe, which has been in use for at least twenty years.

A banquet was served on December 23, 1936, after the sessions were completed, and prizes were awarded to the top four players in each section. All prizes, except the honor prize, were given by different firms dealing in medical supplies.

The honor prize was presented by the writer with the following understanding: (1) It is to be known as the President's Perpetual Bridge Trophy. (2) It is to be the property of the Los Angeles County Medical Association. (3) It is to remain on display at the Association's headquarters. (4) The trophy is to be awarded each year to the physician who makes the highest bridge points and his name shall be placed thereon.

The winner for 1936 was Dr. Harold P. Hare, whose name is the first to be engraved upon the trophy.

A description of the Aztec zone is given in the encyclopedias and other volumes. . . .

The following inscription on copper is attached to the trophy:

THE PRESIDENT'S PERPETUAL BRIDGE TROPHY
Suggested by Harlan Shoemaker, M.D.

President, Los Angeles County Medical Association, 1936
Reproduced and Sculptured From Photographs

by

Arthur E. Smith, M.D., D.D.S.

The disc of the trophy, upon which tableau rests, is a carved reproduction of the Calendario Azteca. The original is in the museum in Mexico City. It is supported by six carved reproductions of the Mayan feathered serpents, the originals of which guard the Temple of Warriors, in Chichen Itza.

North—Charles E. Phillips, M.D.

South—E. Eric Larson, M.D.

East—Edward C. Palette, M.D.

West—Harlan Shoemaker, M.D.

1930 Wilshire Boulevard.